

## TWO YELLOW-FRUITED SHRUBS.

G. S. TORREY.

AMONG the plants sent for determination to the Gray Herbarium during the past autumn, are two color variations which seem sufficiently striking to merit recognition as forms of their respective species.

On October 4, 1913, Mrs. Frank E. Lowe collected in Shrewsbury, Mass., specimens of the spice bush, *Benzoin aestivale* Nees., which differed from the common form in having the drupes orange-yellow, instead of bright red. Several bushes were found, some growing with the typical form in low, damp places; some alone, in drier ground in a rocky pasture. These all bore yellow berries only, which were ripe and falling. The material was sent by Mrs. Lowe to Mrs. E. L. Horr of the Worcester Natural History Museum, by whom it was referred to the Gray Herbarium. The plant may be characterized as follows:

BENZOIN AESTIVALE (L.) Nees., forma **xanthocarpum**, forma nova, fructibus flavis.

The type specimen is in the Gray Herbarium, and a specimen has also been deposited in the Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club.

On November 1, 1913, Miss Louise H. Handy collected specimens of a yellow-fruited beach plum in Marion, Mass., which she sent to the Gray Herbarium. Other material of the same collection reached the Herbarium through Mr. E. W. Hervey of New Bedford, to whom it had been sent by Dr. B. J. Handy. Miss Handy writes that several score of the yellow-fruited bushes grow on a point which runs out into Buzzards Bay, the fruits of which are picked every year by the townspeople for jam.

Although there is no material of this form to be found in the Gray Herbarium, this is not the first time that yellow fruit has been reported in *Prunus maritima*. The species has long been known to be extremely variable; and Prof. Macfarlane of the University of Pennsylvania, who has made a detailed study of the nature and range of the variations,<sup>1</sup> is able to sort the fruits into twelve groups according to color

<sup>1</sup> The Beach Plum, Viewed from Botanical and Economic Aspects. By J. M. Macfarlane. Trans. Bot. Soc. Penn. i. 216 (1901).

and size. He finds that about 65% of the plants have black-blue fruit, while in the remainder, the color passes to bluish green and to a clear orange-yellow. Although Prof. Macfarlane does not consider any of these types sufficiently well-marked to receive names, it seems desirable as a matter of convenience to recognize as a form so conspicuous a variation as the one in hand.

There seems to be no reason why we should not date our *Prunus maritima* from Marshall's description in the *Arbustum Americanum*, published in 1785, rather than from that of Wangenheim, as has usually been done. Marshall's description is brief; but there can be no doubt that he was dealing with the plant which Wangenheim published two years later under the same name. *Prunus maritima* Wang. therefore becomes a synonym of *P. maritima* Marshall, and the yellow-fruited form may be called:

PRUNUS MARITIMA Marshall, forma **flava**, forma nova, fructu flavo.

The type specimen is deposited in the Gray Herbarium.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

### THREE LUPINES NATURALIZED IN EASTERN CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND.

M. L. FERNALD.

IN 1911, while botanizing at Clarenville, at the head of Trinity Bay in Newfoundland, the writer was surprised to see a tall Lupine completely occupying the available ground in a cemetery. So thoroughly established was the plant that it obscured many of the graves and their stones, and only the strong fence had kept from the area the browsing animals which had devoured the tops of all the plants outside the enclosure. A single specimen only was secured by reaching through the fence, for the watchful populace was of a class and disposition to make one think twice before vaulting the cemetery fence to dig up the flowers growing within.

Later, upon returning to Cambridge, the writer received for determination from Dr. J. M. Macoun a specimen of a Lupine seemingly identical with the one at Clarenville but collected on a roadside at